

Divisions Affected – All

COUNTY COUNCIL

08 July 2025

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2024/25

Report by Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Council is **RECOMMENDED** to
 - a) Receive the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

Executive Summary

2. This report invites the Council to consider the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report and formally receive it.

Background

3. Within the Council's Constitution at Part 6.2 paragraph 4 (viii) the overview and scrutiny committees are given the right to submit an annual report. This is given effect through an Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.
4. It should be noted that the Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has its own constitutional requirements under Part 6.1B paragraph 23 of the Constitution, which requires the production and dissemination of a specific annual report for the work of this particular committee. That annual report is therefore being presented to Council as a separate item. It is, however, linked to within the current annual report. Comment around the challenges and future aspirations for the Scrutiny function are equally relevant to Health and non-Health committees.

Financial Implications

5. There are no financial implications associated with the formal receipt of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.

Comments checked by: Drew Hodgson, Strategic Finance Business Partner,
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Legal Implications

6. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced a new political governance system for local councils in England and Wales, requiring them to have a separate 'executive' in the form of a leader, or elected mayor, and cabinet. The Council has a Leader and Cabinet system of governance.
7. Under Section 9F(1) of the Local Government Act 2000 Executive arrangements by a local authority must include provision for the appointment by the authority of one or more committees of the authority referred to as overview and scrutiny committees.
8. The powers set out in the Local Government Act 2000 include the power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive and in connection with those powers to make reports or recommendations to the authority.
9. Part 6.2 paragraph 4(viii) of the Council's constitution provides scrutiny committees with the ability to "report annually to full Council on their work and make recommendations for future work programmes as appropriate."

Comments checked by: Kim Sawyer, Interim Head of Legal and Governance,
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Anita Bradley
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Annex: Annex 1 – Scrutiny Annual Report 2024/25

Background papers: None

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